

SUES DAUGHTER TO GET BACK \$500,000

H. H. Benedict, Newly Wed at 73, Asks Revocation of Ante-Nuptial Deed.

"UNDUE INFLUENCE USED"

Veteran Typewriter Man Roused Offspring by Engagement to Woman of 33.

Henry Harper Benedict, president of many years of the Remington Typewriter Company until his retirement from business in 1913, started suit in the Supreme Court yesterday to set aside a trust deed made on January 26 last whereby he gave his daughter, Mrs. Archibald A. Forrest, wife of the vice-president of the Remington Company, the income from \$500,000 for life and directed that the principal should thereafter be divided among her children.

The trust deed was signed soon after Mr. Benedict, who is 73 years old, became engaged to Miss Josephine K. M. Geddes, whom he married on March 5 in St. Thomas's Protestant Episcopal Church. The trustees are Mr. Forrest and George W. Schurman, a partner of Hughes, Rounds, Schurman & Dwight.

Mr. Benedict says in his complaint that his daughter, who is 33 years old, was induced to sign the deed by undue influence and fraud. He says the \$500,000 worth of securities now held by the trustees constitute about two-sevenths of his entire fortune.

Daughter Demanded Trust.

Mr. Benedict's first wife, who was Miss Maria Neill of Port Plain, N. Y., died on August 26, 1915. The present Mrs. Benedict, who is 33 years old, is a granddaughter of the Rev. J. Gamble Geddes, late dean of the Niagara diocese in Ontario, and on her mother's side a granddaughter of the late Col. Charles Magill, who was Mayor of Hamilton and a member of the Canadian Parliament.

On January 24 this year, Mr. Benedict says in his affidavit, he told Mr. Schurman, who had been his attorney, that he was going to marry Miss Geddes, and by his request the lawyer broke the news to Mr. and Mrs. Forrest at their home in Rye. On the same day, the affidavit continues, Mrs. Forrest appeared at his father's home, 5 East Seventy-fifth street, and demanded that he transfer to her immediately the \$500,000 which he had decided to leave her in his will in the deed of trust.

"My daughter was agitated and excited and hysterical," says Mr. Benedict's affidavit. "She had not been in good health for some time. She remained at the house all night, and at 8 o'clock in the evening I found her in a highly nervous state. My feelings were worked upon by her act and she asked me to make the transfer of securities I did not give the matter the full, careful and judicious consideration that I should have given it."

Says Fortune Was Overestimated. Mr. Benedict says he asked Mr. Forrest, who had been his attorney, since his retirement from business, whether his finances were in such condition that \$500,000 in securities could be transferred as the dowry for his daughter. Mr. Forrest replied, according to the affidavit, that Mr. Benedict's real estate alone was worth \$1,051,550 and that after creating the trust the balance still had \$2,000,000 left. The fact was, Mr. Benedict says, that his stocks and bonds in his son-in-law's care were worth only \$250,000 and his real estate \$750,000. The real estate included Mr. Benedict's home, valued at \$250,000, and a garage which cost \$40,000.

Mr. Benedict says he would never have thought of signing the deed of trust if he had known it was irrevocable, as he has since been told it is. He asks for a restraining order against the trustees, Mr. Forrest and Mr. Schurman, from doing anything with the securities pending trial of the suit. His attorneys are Greene, Hurd & Stewart, 43 Exchange place, George W. Woodworth, 100 Broadway, and Mr. Schurman. Mr. Forrest has retained Roger Baldwin of Baldwin & Hotchkiss.

Both Mr. Forrest and Mr. Baldwin said last night they had nothing to say about the lawsuit at this time.

Mr. Benedict became associated with the infant typewriter industry in 1889. He was with the old firm of E. Remington & Sons, and became president of Wyckoff, Seaman & Benedict in 1902 and of the Remington Typewriter Company in 1902, in which company he retains a directorship. He is a trustee of Hamilton College, his alma mater; trustee of the Brooklyn Institute of Art and Science and other institutions, and a member of many clubs. After the death of the first Mrs. Benedict his daughter and son-in-law lived with him until his second marriage.

Mr. Forrest, besides being vice-president and a director of the Remington Company, is a director of the United States Insurance Company and first vice-president and director of the Union Typewriter Company of New Jersey.

LA FOLLETTE GETS REBUFF.

Senate Committee Takes No Action on Demand for Charges.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—When the Senate committee investigating Senator La Follette's much discussed St. Paul speech began its first hearing today Senator La Follette presented a formal demand that the committee should make a formal copy of the charges against him.

The committee went into executive session to consider the demand. When adjournment was taken later Chairman Pomeroy announced that because of Senator La Follette's refusal to furnish further information the committee would endeavor to get it from other sources. He added no arrangements had been made to hold hearings.

LEATHER MEN FORM COUNCIL.

Manufacturers Plan to Deal Direct With Government.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The country's leather manufacturers today created a national council with headquarters in this city to deal first hand with the Government bureaus handling war supply problems.

At the request of Director Stratton of the Federal bureau of standards the National Association of Tanners was temporarily loaned to the bureau the services of Dr. J. B. Churchill, the newly appointed director of the American leather research laboratory.

Long Island Spends at \$2 a Bushel. Special Despatch to THE SUN.

RIVERHEAD, N. Y., Oct. 16.—Potatoes sold for \$2 a bushel at the leading platform form the morning, an increase of 25 cents over the wholesale price yesterday and the high price for the season. An unusually high crop with rising prices has delighted the farmers.

JAPANESE ARRIVE TO STUDY INDUSTRY.

Railways and Commercial Mission to Visit City.

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